

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **SB 3538 - HB 3587**

March 25, 2006

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Redefines “abuse” as it relates to juveniles and requires the Department of Children’s Services to develop and maintain statewide statistics of the incidents of abuse and annually report their findings.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$109,300 One-Time**

**Other Fiscal Impact – Increase Federal Expenditures - \$50,700 One-Time**

#### Assumptions:

- The Department of Children’s Services will need to reconfigure the current data system to be able to track the estimated gestational age of the infant at the time of birth as well as the type of illegal substance used by the mother. Case managers will need additional time to enter relevant information into the system and staff will need to be trained on the new definition of children exposed to drugs and illegal substances.
- Such is estimated to increase one-time expenditures by \$160,000. Forty-five percent of such amount will be contributed through TennCare resulting in \$109,311 in state funds (DCS funds and TennCare state match) and \$50,689 in federal funds (TennCare federal match and Title IV-E funds).
- The Department of Health will not incur a significant increase in expenditures for any additional children that may need to be tested for illegal substances due to the provisions of this bill.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



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James W. White, Executive Director